

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8026 of the Second Extraordinary Session

By Ragan

A RESOLUTION to honor Tamaurice "Tee" Higgins on his selection in the 2020 NFL draft to the Cincinnati Bengals.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to honor an extraordinary Tennessee athlete who has brought great acclaim and honor to the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding athlete is Tamaurice "Tee" Higgins, who was recently selected as the thirty-third pick in the second round of the 2020 NFL draft as a wide receiver by the Cincinnati Bengals; and

WHEREAS, a 2017 graduate of Oak Ridge High School, where he was a two-sport standout in basketball and football, Tee Higgins received the school's Mr. Football honors his junior and senior years; he was also honored as Tennessee Mr. Football for the Class 5A level in both 2015 and 2016, was named Class 5A Back of the Year by the Tennessee Titans in 2015, and was a finalist for Tennessee Mr. Basketball as a junior; in 2018, he held the distinct honor of having his jersey retired from his alma mater; and

WHEREAS, he was the highest rated signee in Clemson's 2017 recruiting class and was ranked as the second best high school receiver in the nation by Rivals; and

WHEREAS, Tee Higgins was a proud and productive member of the Clemson University Tigers football team that won the 2018 College Football Playoff (CFP) National Championship; and

WHEREAS, excelling as a wide receiver during his sophomore season at Clemson, Tee Higgins was selected to the All-ACC (Atlantic Coast Conference) Second Team, was twice named ACC Receiver of the Week (in games versus South Carolina and Texas A&M), and

earned Clemson Co-Offensive Player of the Week honors for his performance against North Carolina State, against whom he caught a career-high 8 passes for 119 yards, including a 46-yard touchdown reception; and

WHEREAS, he made two touchdown grabs in the second quarter of the Florida State game, and versus Louisville, Tee Higgins became the first Clemson player to record a touchdown reception in four consecutive games since 2016; and

WHEREAS, Tee Higgins then caught two touchdown passes in the ACC Championship Game against Pittsburgh and made an acrobatic, one-handed touchdown grab against Notre Dame in Clemson's Cotton Bowl victory; and

WHEREAS, in the CFP Championship Game versus Alabama, Tee Higgins posted 3 catches for 81 yards and scored the final touchdown on a 5-yard reception to put the icing on Clemson's national championship campaign; and

WHEREAS, for the 2018 season and CFP, Tee Higgins had 59 receptions for 936 yards, including 12 touchdown catches, and distinguished himself as one of Clemson's most talented receivers; and

WHEREAS, Tee Higgins is the son of Camillia "Lady" Stewart, the brother of Shakia "KeKe" Stewart, and the uncle of Ze'Yana Stewart; growing up in the Scarborough community, he attended Oak Valley Baptist Church and played football for the Oak Ridge Boys and Girls Club until the sixth grade; and

WHEREAS, athleticism is a strong trait within his family, as his sister, KeKe Stewart, was a member of the MTSU Lady Raiders and broke the three-point record in the 2013-2014 season; and

WHEREAS, Tee Higgins has accomplished a great deal at a young age, but we are certain that an even brighter future lies ahead; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Tamaurice "Tee" Higgins on his selection in the second round of the 2020 NFL draft by the Cincinnati Bengals and his instrumental role in the

Clemson Tigers' 2018 National Championship season, as we wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.